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finances, diplomatic administration, census and passports, highways, railways and the like, agriculture, industry and labor, the public health, education and the care of the poor. The information in the work is made accessible by a good alphabetical index.

F. J. G.

The Swiss Republic. By BOYD WINCHESTER, late United States Minister at Bern. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott Company, 1891. — 8vo, 487 pp.

State and Federal Government in Switzerland. By JOHN MARTIN VINCENT, PH.D., Librarian and Instructor in Johns Hopkins University. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press, 1891. — 8vo, 247 pp.

Two new books on Swiss institutions, both of them meritorious, afford a gratifying indication of an increasing interest in the institutions of other countries. For his task Mr. Winchester has had the advantage of four years' residence at Bern as minister of the United States. This has given to his book a freshness which comes from knowledge acquired at first hand, and which makes up for certain defects in judgment and in style which are here and there noticeable. In his account of the Federal Assembly, of the republican simplicity that prevails at Bern, of the *landesgemeinde* of Appenzell, and largely throughout the book, the author draws upon his own observation. Facts gathered on the spot give vividness to his statements. To illustrate the practically life tenure of members of the Swiss legislative bodies, he tells us that death and voluntary retirement accounted for nineteen out of twenty-one changes at the last general election. Only two members of the Federal Council, we are told, have failed of re-election since 1848 "on the avowed ground of political divergence." The same preference for men of experience is seen in the custom by which the Vice-President always succeeds the President. "In this way every member of the Federal Council becomes in turn Vice-President and President during each septennial period."

In his chapter on citizenship the author's diplomatic experience comes to his aid in his account of the difficulties which a foreigner encounters who attempts to become a Swiss citizen. Communal citizenship, which is the basis of Swiss citizenship, is a matter of purchase; for it carries with it an interest in the communal property and an eventual right to be supported in case of need. The favorable action of the canton, which "considers the petition from a different and higher standpoint," is more difficult to obtain. Political rights the Swiss citizen may exercise wherever he is domiciled, but he has corporate and property rights only in his canton of origin. The chapters on

"Military Service and Organization," "Education," "Technical and Industrial Schools" and "Industry and Commerce" also contain a good deal of information gleaned in the country itself.

Mr. Vincent knows his history better than does Mr. Winchester. His closing chapter on the "Literature of Swiss Constitutional History" will prove a useful guide to students. The introductory chapter on the "Origins of the Commonwealth" evinces historical insight. Unlike Mr. Winchester he will not accept Mr. Freeman's account of the *landesgemeinde* as the continuation of the old folk-mote, but regards it as an outgrowth of the feudal manorial court.

The author has made a painstaking use of the best authorities, and has given us in the compass of two hundred pages a clear account of Swiss institutions, both federal and cantonal. Among the chapters on "Federal Government," which form the first half of the book, that on "Federal Finance" may be singled out as a piece of thorough work. The latter half of the book deals with "State Government," and here we find, among other things, a suggestive account of the organization and powers of cantonal legislatures and executives. It is perhaps an open question whether more is gained or lost by such a division of the subject as that adopted by Dr. Vincent. The historical relation and actual connection between state and federal institutions is so close, that much may be said in favor of beginning with a discussion of the characteristics of Swiss political institutions and then tracing the relation of the Confederation and the cantons in the various fields of governmental activity. This method would have the advantage of fixing the attention on tendencies and principles, which otherwise are in danger of being lost to view amid a mass of details. The study of political forms is of interest, not in itself, but because of the light it throws upon the laws and conditions of national development. Dr. Vincent's principle of division seems to overlook the organic unity which belongs to a federal as well as to a simple state.

RICHARD HUDSON.

The Government of Victoria (Australia). By EDWARD JENKS, M.A., Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Law in the University of Melbourne. London, Macmillan & Co., 1891. — xiii, 403 pp.

It is encouraging to all who are interested in the study of public law to learn from the preface of Professor Jenks's book that a course of lectures on this subject is given in the University of Melbourne. By public law the author means not merely that body of constitutional principles which aims at the protection of private rights and which comes most frequently before the courts, but rather the whole law of